

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2245

Introduced by Assembly Member Hill

February 18, 2010

An act relating to vehicles to amend Section 27000 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2245, as amended, Hill. Vehicles: ~~handicapped parking spaces.~~
horns.

Existing law requires a motor vehicle, when operated upon a highway, to be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 200 feet, but prohibits a horn from emitting an unreasonably loud or harsh sound. A violation of the vehicle code is a crime.

This bill would instead prohibit a horn from emitting an unreasonably harsh sound or a sound level that is greater than an unspecified level of decibels. By expanding the scope of an existing crime, this bill would create a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

~~Existing law authorizes a disabled person who displays a special license plate or a distinguishing placard to park in specified zones.~~

~~This bill would state that it is the intent of the Legislature to increase access to handicapped parking spaces while preventing placard fraud and abuse by unlawful users.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: ~~no~~-yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. Section 27000 of the Vehicle Code is amended to*
2 *read:*

3 27000. (a) A motor vehicle, when operated upon a highway,
4 shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable
5 of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance
6 of not less than 200 feet, but ~~no~~ a horn shall not emit an
7 unreasonably ~~loud~~ or harsh sound *or a sound level that is greater*
8 *than _____decibels.* An authorized emergency vehicle may be
9 equipped with, and use in conjunction with the siren on that
10 vehicle, an air horn that emits sounds that do not comply with the
11 requirements of this section.

12 (b) A refuse or garbage truck shall be equipped with an
13 automatic backup audible alarm that sounds on backing and is
14 capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from
15 a distance of not less than 100 feet or shall be equipped with an
16 automatic backup device that is in good working order, located at
17 the rear of the vehicle and that immediately applies the service
18 brake of the vehicle on contact by the vehicle with any obstruction
19 to the rear. The backup device or alarm shall also be capable of
20 operating automatically when the vehicle is in neutral or a forward
21 gear but rolls backward.

22 (c) A refuse or garbage truck, except a vehicle, known as a
23 rolloff vehicle, that is used for the express purpose of transporting
24 waste containers such as open boxes or compactors, purchased
25 after January 1, 2010, shall also be equipped with a functioning
26 camera providing a video display for the driver that enhances or
27 supplements the drivers' view behind the truck for the purpose of
28 safely maneuvering the truck.

29 *SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to*
30 *Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because*
31 *the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school*
32 *district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or*

1 *infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty*
2 *for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of*
3 *the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within*
4 *the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California*
5 *Constitution.*

6 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
7 ~~legislating to increase access to handicapped parking spaces while~~
8 ~~preventing placard fraud and abuse by unlawful users.~~

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